

and brother. Now, Dr. Halverson is experiencing joy and happiness incomprehensible to those of us here on Earth. But until I see him again, I will miss this good and faithful servant. I will miss his warm greetings. I will miss his thoughtful prayers. I will miss his example of humility. Most of all, I will miss being his friend.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REV. RICHARD HALVERSON

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, our Senate family lost one of our finest and most respected members yesterday with the passing of the former Senate Chaplain, Reverend Richard Halverson.

As many in this body know, Reverend Halverson ministered to the spiritual needs of Senators, our families, and our staffs for many years. A man who was deeply devoted to his duties as a servant of God, and to his congregation, Reverend Halverson selflessly served the Senate and the Lord almost literally to the end of his life. Despite a lingering illness in his later years, the Reverend was never too tired or sick to spend time with someone who required his guidance and counsel. He was a man who always had a kind word and a positive thought to share with us. I remember, Reverend Halverson would often clip newspaper and magazine articles that he felt were particularly relevant to the issues of religion and morality and send them to Members. Along with these articles, he would include a thoughtful note offering his opinion on the author's thesis, a gesture that not only reminded us that the Reverend was looking after our spiritual well being, but that there are laws and directives as important as those found in the Constitution and code books that should dictate our behavior and conduct as leaders of the Nation. Reverend Halverson was so committed to the cause of restoring and maintaining righteousness in America, he was the only natural choice to author the foreword to the book *Right vs. Wrong*, written by my good friend and former Chief of Staff, Harry Dent.

I had the pleasure of knowing Reverend Halverson throughout his entire tenure in the Senate, and I can attest that he was one of the most faithful, capable, and dedicated Chaplains to have served the United States Senate. Those of us who were here when Reverend Halverson retired last year felt this Chamber had lost a friend, those of us who are here today know the world has lost a kind and compassionate man.

Reverend Halverson is survived by his wife Doris, and I hope that she knows that each of us joins her in mourning the loss of her husband. While her husband and our friend is gone, he has left a little something of himself with those who knew him and we will never forget the service he rendered, or the man he was.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD HALVERSON

Mr. COATS. Madam President, 60 years ago, during the holiday season that we are now celebrating, a young man by the name of Richard Halverson, fresh from the humble upbringing in North Dakota, found himself discouraged and lonely in Hollywood, CA—discouraged by his struggles to become an actor, and lonely as he was away from home during Christmas for the first time in his 19 years of life. It was then that Dick Halverson heard a call from the Lord—first, to believe and follow God, and then to preach the Lord's gospel and minister to all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

In 1988, I was privileged to be appointed to the U.S. Senate, filling the vacancy created by the election of then Senator Dan Quayle to the Vice Presidency. Several thoughts occurred to me and my family at that moment, but one of the greatest was that I would have the privilege of serving in the same institution where Rev. Dick Halverson served as Chaplain. My admiration for Dr. Halverson extended then and now beyond the fact that we graduated from the same institution, Wheaton College. My respect for Dick Halverson is based on the way he lived his life every day in humble service to his God.

The American public primarily saw Chaplain Halverson in the role of opening each Senate session with prayer. As he prepared those invocations each day, Pastor Halverson prayed that God would give him the wisdom to speak the Lord's truth in what is known as the world's greatest deliberative body. Without touching on specific bills or legislation, Dr. Halverson prayed that God would lead Members of the Senate in reasoned, respectful debate.

For example, Chaplain Halverson prayed here on the Senate floor, "God of our fathers, if we separate morality from politics, we imperil our Nation and threaten self-destruction. Imperial Rome was not defeated by an enemy from without; it was destroyed by moral decay from within. Mighty God, over and over again you warned your people, Israel, that righteousness is essential to national health." Words of wisdom from a man of great wisdom.

Those of us privileged to know Dr. Halverson also experienced the dedicated and loving service he provided away from the lights of the Senate floor. Washington, DC, is one of the toughest, most intense places anybody can live, especially for those of us who work on Capitol Hill. From overloaded Senate schedules to endless traffic jams, Washington can grind even the strongest individuals—which I think is one of the reasons God gave us Dick Halverson.

Pastor Halverson used to say, "I never try to be in a hurry." While all of us would scurry around from scheduled event to scheduled event, Chaplain Halverson lived that phrase, "I never try to be in a hurry." And he slowed us

down. A smile, a hand on the arm, a twinkle in his eye, and the words "God bless you" were delivered literally thousands, if not tens of thousands of times to Members of this body.

While our lives can be filled with stress and strife, it was Chaplain Halverson who always had the time to walk back with us to our office, chat with us on the telephone, and when necessary counsel us through our deepest struggles.

The real greatness of Dick Halverson, however, was exhibited in the ways that he provided this selfless service, not just to those of us privileged to serve as elected officials here in the U.S. Senate, but to all who crossed his doorstep or came upon his path. Just ask the Senate staffers, just ask the security guards, just ask the custodians, just ask the cooks in the kitchens, all of whom Dick Halverson knew on a first-name basis.

For Pastor Halverson, we are created equal in the sight of God. Each person is equally important and equally significant. Each personal need conveyed to him by others was serious and substantial regardless of who it was who conveyed that need. Our loss is great and our prayers are with his surviving family.

But for Richard Halverson this is a new day. He has left his post in his Nation's Government to sit in the throne room of the King. He has fought the good fight. He has finished the race and he kept the faith.

Chaplain Halverson once described himself as "a servant to the public servants." Because he served his role so well, we know today with confidence that Dick Halverson is hearing those loving words from the Lord Almighty, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BILL PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 1432

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, I understand there is a bill on the calendar that is due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1432) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for increases in the amounts of allowable earnings under the Social Security earnings limit for individuals who have attained retirement age, and for other purposes.

Mr. LOTT. I object to further consideration of this matter at this time.